IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Canceled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with ~~strikethrough~~. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (canceled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered). Please AMEND claim 1 in accordance with the following:

1. (**CURRENTLY AMENDED**)A secondary battery comprising:

an electrode unit having a positive electrode plate, a negative electrode plate and a separator disposed therebetween;

a can having ~~a bottom portion,~~ a side wall, ~~and~~ an opening at ~~an~~ one end of the side wall, and in which the electrode unit and an electrolytic solution are accommodated through the opening and a closed bottom portion at an opposite end of the side wall from the opening, the can comprising aluminum or an aluminum alloy;

a cap plate directly welded at the opening to seal the can; and

a layer having a thickness of 30 μm to 100 μm provided ~~only~~ on an outer surface of only the bottom portion of the can and not provided on the side wall of the can.

2. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 1, wherein the layer has at least nickel as a main component.

3. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 2, wherein the layer is formed by at least one method selected from the group consisting of electrolytic plating, electroless plating and sputtering.

4. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 1, wherein the layer has at least copper as a main component.

5. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 4, wherein the layer is formed by at least one method selected from the group consisting of electrolytic plating, electroless plating, sputtering and cladding.

6. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 1, further comprising a safety device and a lead unit which connects the positive and negative electrode plates through the safety device, the lead unit comprising a lead electrically connected to the safety device and which is welded to the layer.

7. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 6, wherein the lead is welded to the layer by resistance welding.

8. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 7, wherein the layer comprises a first material, the lead comprises a second material other than the first material, and a melting point difference between the first and second materials is 500 °C or less.

9. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 8, wherein a melting point difference between the first and second materials is 200 °C or less.

10. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 4, further comprising a safety device and a lead unit which electrically connects the positive and negative electrode plates through the safety device, the lead unit comprising a lead electrically connected to the safety device and which is adhered to the layer by soldering.

11-12. (**CANCELED**)

13. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 1, further comprising a metal layer between the layer and the outer surface of the bottom portion of the can, wherein the metal layer comprises a first material, the can comprises a second material including the aluminum or the aluminum alloy, the layer comprises the second material, and the second material is different from the first material.

14. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 13, wherein the first material of the metal layer comprises at least one material selected from the group consisting of Zn, Sn, Fe and Cr.

15. (**ORIGINAL**) The secondary battery of claim 1, wherein a thickness of the bottom portion of the can is in the range of 0.2 mm to 0.8 mm.

16-66. (**CANCELED**)